season. The Government of India permits opeation of extra section flights to take care of seasonal traffic. The Government has also formulated a liberal tourist charter policy which has been well appreciated. On the basis of requests, the Government is also holding bilateral talks and views capacity requirements liberally.

Installation of Proper lighting System at IGI Airport, Delhi

1997. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:
SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether 1.6 km. boundary surrounding the Indira Gandhi International Airport remains dark and pose a major security risk; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed for installing proper lighting system at the dark outer boundary of IGI immediately?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. At Indira Gandhi International Airport there is a problem of inadequate lighting at some police watch posts. However, corrective action has already been initiate and is likely to be completed soon.

Decline in occupancy rate at Centaur Hotel, Delhi

1998. SHRI V.N. GADGIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the occupancy rate of Centaur Hotel Delhi has gone down very much and in January 2000 only 35 of its 335 rooms were occupied;

(b) whether the crew of Air India have refused to stay at Centaur Hotel; and

(c) whether they have refused on the ground that the rooms are full of rats, cockroaches and monkeys?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) The occupancy at Centaur Hotel Delhi had dropped during January 2000. The average occupancy per day for January, 2000 was 65 rooms out of 272 operational rooms (100 rooms are under rennovation hence not available for sale). The occupancy has however picked up during the month of February 2000.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. In 1993, the B747 sets of Air India's crew had moved

out of Centaur Hotel, Delhi due to deteriorating conditions. The Airbus sets have been staying. Presently, one set of Airbus 310 crew is staying four days a week based on the pattern of the crew layover. With the initiation of several steps to improve the infrastructure and facilities including rennovation of 100 rooms at Centaur Hotel. Delhi, HCI is in dialogue with Air India to shift the crew back to Centaur Hotel.

Additional Air Routes from Ahmedabad Airport

1999. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sardar Vallabhabhai International Airport, Ahmedabad will be allotted additional Air routes and will function as a fullfledged Airport;

(b) the time by which construction of runway would be completed;

(c) the time by which the additional routes will start functioning; and

(d) the details of new routes which have been planned to start?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (d) Sardar Vallabha Bhai International Airport, Ahmedabad is a fullfledged airport. Extension of runway to 11,500 feet along with apron expansion and strengthening is scheduled to be completed by April, 2000. Indian carriers are free to operate any number of services to/from Ahmedabad in accordance with their commercial judgement.

Unearthing of Unmetered call racket in Meerut

2000. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a racket of unmetered calls have been unearthed at a exchange in Meerut as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 26th January 2000;

(b) if so, the details for modus operandi of the racket;

(c) the estimated losses suffered by Government due to this specific racket;

(d) whether similar rackets of unmetered call are flourishing in other cities and towns also in connivance with the Telecom officials; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government to check such rackets?